

BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF FWP
OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

In the matter of the amendment of) RULEMAKING PETITION
ARMs) **Motorized Bitterroot River usage**
12.11.610, 12.11.)
)

TO: All Concerned Persons

1. Craig E. Thomas 4189 Ember Lane, Stevensville, Montana 59870
2. Petitioner will be allowed to utilize motorized vehicle on the Bitterroot River at any time outside of the prime fishing period as determined by FWP.
3. Current rules are excessively restrictive basically eliminating summertime motorized vehicle for said river.

ADOPTION:

The amendment as proposed to be adopted would provide as follows:

Motorized Bitterroot River usage:

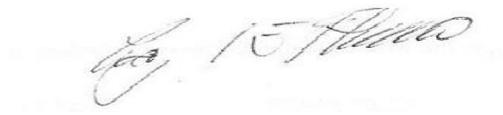
1. Operational period **MUST** be **outside normal Prime fly fishing** period on aforementioned river as per the FWP.
2. Motorized vehicle (MV) operational parameters:
 - a. All noise must be equal to or less than a large riding lawnmower.
 - b. Speed must be less than 20 mph.
 - c. MV must beach immediately, at the first safe available spot, when approaching non-motorized craft.
 - d. MV must NOT disturb the streambed.

AMENDMENT:

The rule amendment has two primary goals:

1. Permit enjoyable summertime motorized enjoyment on aforementioned river.
2. Eliminate conflict with the existing fishing industry by prohibiting activities during the prime fishing season as determined by FWP.

WHEREFORE, petitioner requests the FWP to amend ARMs 12.11.610, 12.11.620 to allow Motorized Bitterroot River usage as outlined above.



Craig E. Thomas 9 Feb 2023